

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A substrate (7) provided at its visible side with a finish having a grain texture, with a suede type fine fiber upper side, in particular a grain leather with a polished grain side forming the upper side or a synthetic suede material with an upper side consisting of micro fibers, whereby the finish consists of a stabilized synthetic dispersion and is produced on a backing with a textured surface corresponding to the grain texture and a bonding layer formed of a stabilized synthetic dispersion containing polyurethane, which is applied to the upper side of the substrate, wherein the finish has through-capillaries extending through its full thickness and essentially having the same thickness both in the region of the grain tips as well as in the region of the grain valleys, and is bonded by way of a single thin bonding layer (12) to the substrate.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the capillaries (11) have different cross-sections.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the capillaries are arranged irregularly distributed in the finish.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1 wherein the capillaries have a diameter of between 0.005 mm and 0.05 mm.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1 wherein the finish has at least 100 capillaries.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1 wherein the capillaries extend substantially in a straight line.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the bonding layer has interruptions.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the bonding layer has weakened positions of reduced thickness.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the bonding layer is arranged only partially on the surface of the substrate (7).

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the bonding layer has a punctiform, screen or grid.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 8, wherein the bonding layer has a maximum thickness of between 0.01 mm and 0.05 mm and at its weakened position (18) a thickness of between 0.002 and 0.01 mm.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein its upper side is formed fibrously, and that the bonding layer is arranged predominantly in the region of the fiber ~~peaks~~ tips, so that between these hollow spaces, causing a pump effect, are kept free.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the bonding layer consists of a stabilized, polyurethane containing cross-linked synthetic dispersion.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 13, wherein the bonding layer (12) consists of a stabilized polyester polyurethane dispersion.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 13, wherein the polyurethane containing dispersion has at least partially a crystalline structure or a partial crystalline structure.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 13, wherein the synthetic dispersion contains adhesively acting additives, for example soft resins or soft polymers, in particular acrylates.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the bonding layer has a foam texture.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the bonding layer contains ~~micro~~ hollow spheres microspheres with a diameter less than 21 μm .

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the bonding layer has a weight per unit area of between 20 g/m² and 90 g/m².

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the finish has approximately the same texture and the same density in all cross-sectional regions.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the finish consists of a combination of a stabilized, a polyurethane dispersion containing a cross-linking agent with a high softening point, and a stabilized polyurethane dispersion containing a cross-linking agent with preferably crystalline or partial crystalline structure with a low softening point, which dispersion is thermoplastic prior to cross-linking.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the finish contains ~~micro~~ hollow spheres microspheres forming closed cells with a diameter of less than 21 μm .

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the grain tips of the finish have microscopic small smooth raises.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the visible side of the finish has a nubuck texture, out of which fine hairs project, which form microscopical small raises.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 23, wherein the raises have a diameter of between 3 μm and 60 μm .

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the finish contains waxes and/or silicones on its visible side.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein the visible side of the finish is provided with a thin finish.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein on its side opposite to the upper side provided with the finish, there is provided a strong ~~rhombic~~ roughened synthetic woven or knitted fabric with projecting fiber.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 28, wherein the woven or knitted fabric is covered by means of a thin coating.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 1, wherein it consists of a shaped section.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 30, wherein it consists of a shaped section in the flank or belly region of a leather hide and has a finish with a strongly impregnated grain texture.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The substrate according to claim 30, wherein it consists of a shaped section in the core region of a leather hide and has a finish with a flat grain texture.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A method for producing a finish provided with backing with a grain texture on its visible side showing a suede type, fine fibrous upper side, whereby initially for forming the finish an aqueous synthetic dispersion of a backing

consisting of silicone rubber, which has a surface textured according to the grain texture of the finish, is applied and allowed to stabilize into a film, furthermore in the upper side of the substrate a synthetic dispersion forming a bonding layer is applied, and furthermore the substrate with this upper side is placed onto the film and subjected to a pressure and heat treatment, wherein the synthetic dispersion containing solvent free polyurethane as well as a cross-linking agent is applied in such a manner on a backing, having a uniform temperature of less than 105°C, that this synthetic dispersion on touching on the backing is stabilized immediately and, after water evaporation, a uniform thick film having a texture with thickness of less than 0.04 mm is formed.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 33, wherein a synthetic dispersion is used, which consists of a combination of a polyurethane dispersion containing a cross-linking agent with a high softening point and a polyurethane dispersion containing a cross-linking agent with preferably crystalline or partially crystalline structure with a low softening point, which dispersion is thermoplastic prior to cross-linking.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 33, wherein the synthetic dispersion is applied onto the heated backing by means of a fine spraying fog produced by spraying nozzles having a small diameter.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 35, wherein the spray application takes place without air admixture at a pressure between 40 bar and 100 bar by using spraying nozzles with a diameter of less than 0.04 mm.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 33, wherein the textured surface of the backing is produced by moulding of the grain texture of a natural leather.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 33, wherein the textured surface of the backing is produced by laser treatment.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 38, wherein the textured surface of the backing produced by laser treatment is multiplied by way of a master.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 33, wherein a backing consisting of addition cross-linked silicone rubber with a Shore hardness between 25 Shore A and 70 Shore A is used.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 33, wherein a backing of a heat conducting silicone rubber with a density of more than 110 g/cm³ is used.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 41, wherein a backing in which inorganic fillers are embedded, is used.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 33, wherein a backing is used which is bonded by glueing by means of a metallic support.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 43, wherein the support consists of an aluminium sheet with a thickness between 1 mm and 3 mm.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 43, wherein the bonding of the backing to the metallic support takes place by means of a single component silicone glue, in which a thin fleece material of synthetic fibers with a weight per unit area of less than 150 g/m² is embedded.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 33, wherein a synthetic dispersion is applied on the upper side of the substrate, which dispersion essentially consists of a polyurethane dispersion with a low softening point, and this being such that on touching the upper side of the substrate it rapidly stabilizes and a non-continuous bonding layer is formed.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 33, wherein a synthetic dispersion is applied to the upper side of the substrate (7), which dispersion essentially consists of a polyurethane dispersion with a low softening point, and this being such that on touching the upper side of the substrate it rapidly stabilizes and a bonding layer with weakened positions of the reduced thickness is formed.

Claim 48 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 33, wherein the upper side of the substrate provided with the dispersion forming the bonding layer is placed onto the film showing the cross-linking structure located on the backing and being extensively water-free, as soon as such dispersion is gripping-dry but still contains residue moisture.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 33, wherein the film having a net-texture located on the backing with the substrate placed thereon provided with the synthetic dispersion forming the bonding layer is pressed between pressure elastic plates at a temperature of between 60°C and 105°C and a pressure of maximum 5 kg/cm².

Claim 50 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 49, wherein, after pressing, the substrate provided with the finish is subjected to a residue drying in suspended condition.